

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED
Current Handling: n/a

PTQ4194

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-08	ACDE-00	INLB-01	ACQ-01	INL-01	SRPP-00
	DS-00	OIGO-01	UTED-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00
	MMP-00	SCT-00	VO-03	ASDS-01	DSCC-00	DRL-04	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	/022W					

-----542BF9 142156Z /38

R 142136Z JUL 98
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4079
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
DIRONDCP WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC//OCDEPS
DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
DEA WASHDC
FBI WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
USCINCSO MIAMI FL
NSC WASHDC
USIA WASHDC 4401
DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

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ONDPC FOR JANET CRIST AND ALLISON MAJOR
SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD
DEA FOR OF, OFL, OC, AX

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JUSTICE FOR CRIM. WARREN, RICHARD AND NDDS/VAN VLIET
FBI FOR CID/IRS/IRU2
USIA FOR AT, I/GAR

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KVPR, KJUS, PTER, PHUM, SNAR, PINR, PGOV, CO
SUBJECT: THREE SENTENCED FOR 1991 MASSACRE

1. SUMMARY. A "FACELESS JUDGE" SENTENCED THREE MEN TO THIRTY YEARS IN PRISON FOR THE 1991 LOS UVOS MASSACRE IN WHICH 17 PEOPLE DIED. THE CORPORAL IN THE COLOMBIAN ARMY AND THE TWO CIVILIAN ARMY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 28 APR 2004 200400772

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"INFORMANTS" SENTENCED IN THIS CASE HAVE ALSO BEEN ORDERED TO PAY A FINE OF 2500 GRAMS OF GOLD. TWO ARMY MAJORS IMPLICATED IN THE INVESTIGATION WILL APPARENTLY BE PROCESSED BY THE MILITARY JUDICIAL SYSTEM UNDER THE THIRD BRIGADE IN CALI. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO BOGOTA DAILY "EL ESPECTADOR," CORPORAL JOSE GUSTAVO MORA PARRA AND CIVILIAN INFORMANTS JUAN CARLOS MUÑOZ AND ASNED ORDOÑEZ BURBANO WERE SENTENCED TO THIRTY YEARS IN PRISON AND A FINE OF 2500 GRAMS OF GOLD ON CHARGES OF MULTIPLE AGGRAVATED HOMICIDE, DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AND THEFT, RELATED TO THE APRIL 7, 1991 MASSACRE OF 17 PEOPLE IN LOS UVOS, CAUCA DEPARTMENT. THE FINE WILL BE PAID OUT TO THE HEIRS OF THE 17 VICTIMS.

3. ON APRIL 7, 1991, A GROUP OF ARMED MEN STOPPED A PUBLIC BUS WITH 15 PASSENGERS AND A MOTORCYCLE WITH TWO RIDERS ON A RURAL ROAD NEAR LOS UVOS, IN CAUCA. THE MEN COLLECTED THE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS OF THE VICTIMS, ORDERED THEM TO LIE FACE-DOWN ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD, AND PROCEEDED TO SHOOT ALL 17

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PEOPLE. THE IDENTITY PAPERS WERE BURNED, THE BUSES DESTROYED, AND THE PERPETRATORS FLED THE SCENE, LEAVING LEAFLETS, PURPORTING TO BE FROM THE ELN AND SIMON BOLIVAR COORDINATING GROUP, STREWN ALONGSIDE THE BODIES. IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION, AS EL ESPECTADOR REPORTS, AUTHORITIES PROVED THAT THE PARTIES RESPONSIBLE WERE ACTUALLY MEMBERS OF, OR WORKING WITH, THE ARMY'S "JOSE HILARIO LOPEZ" BATTALION AT POPAYAN. (NOTE: THE LOS UVOS MASSACRE FEATURED PROMINENTLY IN A 1993 HUMAN RIGHTS SURVEY BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE TERMINATION OF U.S. GRANT ASSISTANCE TO THE COLOMBIAN ARMY IN 1993. END NOTE.)

4. TWO ARMY MAJORS, PABLO ALFONSO BRICENO LOVERA AND CESAR AUGUSTO SAAVEDRA PADILLA, HAVE BEEN LINKED TO THE MASSACRE AS WELL. THEIR CASE APPARENTLY FALLS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MILITARY PENAL SYSTEM IN THE GUISE OF THE THIRD BRIGADE IN CALI. (NOTE: THE CURRENT CHIEF OF STAFF OF THAT BRIGADE, SECOND IN COMMAND, IS ONE COLONEL MARCO HERNANDEZ BAEZ GARZON, WHO WAS SENTENCED ON MARCH 31 BY ANOTHER "FACELESS JUDGE" TO EIGHTEEN YEARS IN PRISON FOR THE 1988 SEGOVIA MASSACRE. TO DATE, HE HAS NOT BEEN DETAINED AND CONTINUES TO SERVE AT HIS POST. END NOTE.)

5. BEFORE THE END OF 1997, THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT RULED THAT CASES OF THIS NATURE SHOULD BE HANDLED BY THE CIVILIAN COURTS. IN PRACTICE, HOWEVER, THE CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE LA JUDICATURA, WHICH DETERMINES WHETHER CASES FALL UNDER MILITARY OR CIVILIAN JURISDICTION, CONTINUES TO LEAVE A NUMBER OF THESE CASES TO THE

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